



DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

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‘Scoop It’ snow removal program assists elderly and disabled homeowners

Pierre, S.D. – State prison inmates assisted a total of 120 elderly and disabled homeowners across South Dakota with removing snow following last weekend’s winter storm.

As part of the Department of Corrections ‘Scoop It’ program, minimum-security inmates from the Jameson Annex of the South Dakota State Penitentiary in Sioux Falls, South Dakota Women’s Prison in Pierre and minimum-security units in Yankton and Rapid City are dispatched to clear away snow for those homeowners that either can’t physically remove the snow themselves or can’t afford to pay someone else to do so.

The snow removal is coordinated through community resource agencies in those cities. The agencies do a screening of those asking for the assistance and call the prison units with the information and addresses. A uniformed correctional officer accompanies the inmate crew, which is made up of non-violent inmates who are nearing the end of their sentences.

Community resource agencies for the ‘Scoop It’ program include:

<u>City</u>	<u>Community Resource</u>	<u>Contact Number</u>
Sioux Falls	Help!Line Center	211 in Sioux Falls
Pierre/Ft. Pierre	United Way of Pierre/Ft. Pierre	224-9229
Rapid City	Rapid City United Way	343-5872
Yankton	Yankton Area Senior Citizens Center	665-4685

Juveniles assigned to the State Treatment and Rehabilitation (STAR) Academy also provide snow shoveling in Custer.